

Vice Adm. William F. (Red) Raborn Jr.  
Is Recipient of Forrestal Memorial Award

EXTENSION OF REMARKS  
OF

HON. L. MENDEL RIVERS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 1966

Mr. RIVERS of South Carolina. MR. Speaker, last Thursday night I had the honor of attending the 12th annual Forrestal Memorial Award dinner sponsored by the National Security Industrial Association. The purpose of this association is to maintain a close working relationship and to promote mutual understanding between industry and those agencies of Government responsible for the national defense. The Forrestal Award is given annually in honor of those who have furthered these objectives. A long line of distinguished Americans have received this award, commencing in 1954 with President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Last night's recipient is an outstanding American and a personal friend, Vice Adm. William F. Raborn, Jr., better known to his friends as "Red."

"Red" Raborn has had a distinguished career serving his country, beginning in 1924 when he was first appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy. He served in a variety of posts with the Navy during World War II, including operations against enemy forces in the Philippine Islands, the South China Sea, Iwo Jima, and the Japanese homeland.

Admiral Raborn is probably most noted as the Director of Special Projects of the Department of the Navy. In this capacity he was charged with the task of developing a fleet ballistic missile system. His management genius and his leadership resulted in the successful launchings of Polaris missiles in 1960, 2 years ahead of the planned schedule. One of the management systems that he developed in producing the Polaris missile is known as the program evaluation reporting technique, commonly known as PERT. The widespread adoption of this method by large sections of American industry reflect his perception and resourcefulness. "Red" has been the recipient of many awards, both military and civilian, during his career including the Distinguished Service Medal and the Collier Trophy Award, presented by President Kennedy in 1963.

I have long been associated with "Red" Raborn and can think of no man more deserving of the award. Over the years I have known him, I have always admired him as a warm and human man, deeply dedicated to the concept of team work.

After he retired from the Navy in 1963, he accepted a position as vice president of Aerojet-General Corp. I was sad to see my good friend depart from the service of his country, although certainly he had earned the opportunity of spending more time with his family and to provide the larger measure of material

things for them which employ private industry made possible.

As would be expected when the President called on him to return to the service of his country in April 1965 as Director of Central Intelligence, "Red" responded without hesitation. I was personally delighted that he accepted and brought to the CIA his talents and dedication. He has been totally cooperative and responsive to the needs of the CIA Subcommittee of Armed Services of which I am chairman and has seen to it that this subcommittee has been kept thoroughly and currently informed.

"Red" has applied his highly developed management skills to the direction of the Central Intelligence Agency which plays such a vital part in the defense and security of this Nation. I can attest that he is doing an outstanding job as Director of Central Intelligence and is a credit to this Agency which has had other outstanding Directors in the past. This is small tribute to offer to a man of Admiral Raborn's dedication, patriotism, and loyalty but I hope in some small measure it may contribute to greater recognition that in one of this Nation's most important jobs, the occupant fully deserves the commendation of "well done."